

# Sea Grant Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship Host Prospectus 2013



The National Sea Grant College Program's Dean John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship, established in 1979, provides a unique educational experience to students who have an interest in ocean, coastal and Great Lakes resources and in the national policy decisions affecting those resources. The program matches highly qualified students enrolled in graduate programs with "Hosts" in the legislative and executive branch of government located in the Washington, D.C. area, for a one year paid Fellowship.





*State Sea Grant Programs across the USA*

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) National Sea Grant College Program is located in Silver Spring, Maryland. The National Sea Grant College Program works closely with the 32 state Sea Grant programs located in every coastal and Great Lakes state and Puerto Rico. These programs serve as the core of a dynamic, national university-based network of over 300 institutions involving more than 3,000 scientists, engineers, educators, students and outreach experts. This network works on a variety of topics vital to human and environmental health—topics such as water quality, coastal hazards and biotechnology. Through their research, education and outreach activities, Sea Grant has helped position the United States as the world leader in marine research and the sustainable development of coastal resources. Sea Grant activities exist at the nexus of local, state, national and sometimes international interests. In this way, local needs receive national attention, and national commitments are fulfilled at the local level.

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National Sea Grant  
College Program

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Sea Grant



# INTRODUCTION

The Dean John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship program is open to the legislative and executive branches of the federal government in the Washington, D.C. area. The legislative branch hosts will have their fellows funded by the National Sea Grant Office at a level of \$52,500 (2013 cost) per year. The executive branch offices will be financially assessed \$56,000 (2013 cost) for each fellow. Of the \$56,000, \$3,500 will be allocated to the National Sea Grant Office to cover the administration costs of the fellowship program.

Prospective hosts will provide an educational opportunity to individuals who will in turn provide substantial and professional contributions to the office. The hosts are expected to provide opportunities for involvement in substantive issues that support the fellows' professional and educational accomplishments and goals.

## Selection

Host selection will be based on the following criteria:

- The quality of the fellowship opportunity.
- The level of educational benefit for the fellow.
- The host office's previous experience working with interns, fellows or other mentoring/educational programs.
- The level of financial commitment. Executive hosts are required to provide the entire cost of the 12-month fellowship which covers stipend, health insurance reimbursement, and travel costs.

## The Fellowship:

Duration: One year, non-renewable

Dates: February 1- January 31



# REGISTERING

If you are a new host office, you must go to the Sea Grant Knauss Host Database online to register as a database user and to provide your host office information: <https://pier.seagrant.noaa.gov>

The deadline to apply as a host and update your profile is November 13, 2012 (close of business).

The screenshot shows the NOAA National Sea Grant College Program website. The header includes the NOAA logo and navigation links: HOME, ABOUT, PROGRAMS, WHAT WE DO, NEWS, FUNDING, STUDENTS & EDUCATORS, NETWORK INFORMATION, and PIER. The main content area is titled 'Login' and contains fields for 'User Name' and 'Password', a 'Remember me' checkbox, and a 'Login' button. Below the login fields is a link to 'New User Registration (User Manual)'. The footer contains a small text block: 'A publication of the National Sea Grant College Program - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) • U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC)'.

After an account has been created and approved, and successful login has taken place, each user will be able to create a profile and job description for that specific host office. If needed, a host office has the option to post more than one position description in the database. If selected as a participating host, this description will be made available to prospective fellowship applicants and incoming finalists.

Hosts are also asked to include and update the following information in their profile:

- Host location and contact information (address, phone, fax)
- Fellowship supervisor(s)
- Point of contact during Placement Week
- Preferred time of presentation and name of presenter during Placement Week
- Directions to host office
- Position Description(s)

Please contact [OAR.SG.fellows@noaa.gov](mailto:OAR.SG.fellows@noaa.gov) if you have any problems with the database or need help retrieving your username and/or password.



# PLACEMENT WEEK

December 3-7, 2012 (for the class of 2013)

## The Placement Process:

### 1. Presentations

At the start of Placement Week, hosts who have completed their online application and been approved by the National Sea Grant Office will provide a 10 minute presentation (7 min. plus 3 min. for questions) to the finalists (finalists become fellows once they have been matched with a host office, and have received the financial award) outlining the principle duties of the office and the role the fellow would play in that office.

### 2. Interviews

Hosts should also submit their availability during the week for interviews, the location of the interviews, and the person conducting the interviews. One half hour is allocated for each interview. Finalists will select host offices with whom they will interview. Interview sign up sheets will be faxed to the host offices and interviews will ensue until the close of business on Thursday, December 6 (executive Hosts) or late Friday morning, December 7 (legislative Hosts).

### 3. Placement

Hosts will fill out a ranking sheet of Finalists they have interviewed, and email this to the fellowship email address ([oar.sg.fellows@noaa.gov](mailto:oar.sg.fellows@noaa.gov)). Those rankings will then be provided to the finalists on Friday, December 7. Finalists will choose, following the rank order provided by the host offices, which host office they will commit to. A finalist may only choose one host office. Once a finalist has chosen a host office, that finalist must cross his/her name off of every other list on which they are ranked. The process continues until everyone has selected a host office.



## Timeline

November 13, 2012

- Registration Deadline for Hosts (online)
- Deadline for Position Descriptions

November 27, 2012

- Deadline to send in interview availability during Placement Week

December 3-7, 2012

- Presentations
- Interviews

December 7, 2012

- Host offices finalize their finalist preference in rank order
- Finalists receive their ranking
- Hosts are notified of the finalists they have secured

February 1, 2013

- Fellowship begins

January 31, 2014

- Fellowship ends



## Recent Host Offices

### Executive

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Department of Transportation

Department of Defense, Navy

Department of State

Environmental Protection Agency

National Science Foundation

Department of Energy

Department of the Interior

- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

### Legislative

#### Senate

- Individual Senators: Roger Wicker, Patty Murray, Daniel K. Inouye, Maria Cantwell, Ron Wyden, Sheldon Whitehouse, Bill Nelson, Barbara Boxer, David Vitter, Frank Lautenberg, Olympia J. Snowe
- Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation

#### House of Representative

- Individual Representatives: Sam Farr, Michael Thompson, Chellie Pingree, Ron Kind, Tom Allen, Madeleine Z. Bordallo
- Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife
- Science Committee







# FELLOW TESTIMONIALS



Carl Rebstock, Executive Director,  
Passionfish.org, and Colonel, U.S. Army,  
Sea Grant Knauss Fellow 1992

*"This Fellowship adds rocket fuel to a career in marine science and policy. Regardless of what direction you pursue—education, industry, policy, research, or some other field—this Fellowship provides unparalleled exposure to the mechanisms that drive the whole system."*



Dan Ashe, Director,  
US Fish & Wildlife Service,  
Sea Grant Knauss Fellow 1982

*"No matter what you do from here on out, whether you become President of the United States or leave the field entirely and decide to go become a bricklayer, this experience will be of value to you."*



Seanbob Kelly, Fisheries Mgt Specialist,  
Sustainable Fisheries Alaska Regional Office,  
Sea Grant Knauss Fellow 2008

*"Never before have I been guaranteed both a week of interviews and a great job. Now I can't wait to see where my Fellowship experience working for the National Marine Fisheries Service takes me. I hope that I can apply this knowledge and these skills to help effectively manage Alaska's fisheries resources."*

Jena Carter, Regional Marine Director - Pacific North America, Nature Conservancy,  
Sea Grant Knauss Fellow 1999

*"In my first few months of work, I drafted legislation to reauthorize the Coastal Zone Management Act, met with officials in the administration, and debated other staffers on the best solutions to natural resource problems."*



# STIPEND

The state Sea Grant program receives and administers the overall award of \$52,500 per student on behalf of each Fellow selected from their program. Of this amount, the state Sea Grant program provides \$41,500 to each fellow for stipend and living expenses (per diem). \$9,000 will be used to cover mandatory health insurance for the fellow and moving expenses; any remaining funds shall be used during the fellowship year, first to satisfy academic degree- related activities, and second for fellowship-related activities. Finally, up to \$2,000 from the total \$52,500 can be used to cover placement week costs. Indirect costs are not allowable from the federal funds either for the fellowships or for any costs associated with the fellowships, including the \$2,000 budgeted for placement week. During the fellowship, the host may provide supplemental funds for work-related travel by the fellow.



# HISTORY OF THE FELLOWSHIP

In 1979, the National Sea Grant Office, in fulfilling its broad educational responsibilities, implemented the National Sea Grant Federal Fellows program to initially provide an educational experience in the policies and processes of the legislative branch of the federal government. Later, the program was expanded to provide opportunities within the executive branch of the federal government in the Washington, D.C. area. Recognizing the value of this program, in 1987 the U.S. Congress stipulated in P.L. 100-220 that the Sea Grant Federal Fellows Program become a formal part of the National Sea Grant College Program Act. The recipients are designated Dean John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellows in honor of one of Sea Grant's founders and former NOAA Administrator, John A. Knauss [33 U.S.C. 1127 (b)].

## KNAUSS

John A. Knauss, a leading expert on oceanography, geophysics and public policy, born in Detroit, Michigan, September 1, 1925.



Ph.D., 1959, Scripps Institution of Oceanography;  
Graduate School of Oceanography (founding dean),  
University of Rhode Island, since 1962;  
Administrator of NOAA, 1989-1993.



# FINALISTS SELECTION

## Evaluation Criteria and Weighting

1 *Recommendations and/or endorsements of student* (15 percent total): Endorsement/content of the letter from the applicant's state Sea Grant Program Director, the applicant's major professor, and the second letter of recommendation.

2 *Academic record and statement of career goals and objectives of student* (45 percent total): Quality of the applicant's personal education and career goal statement (30 percent); strength of academic performance (15 percent).

4 *Additional relevant experience* (40 percent total) related to: diversity of education, extra-curricular activities, honors and awards, and interpersonal, written, and oral communications skills. For the Sea Grant Knauss Fellowship Program, relevant experience would be in marine or aquatic-related fields.

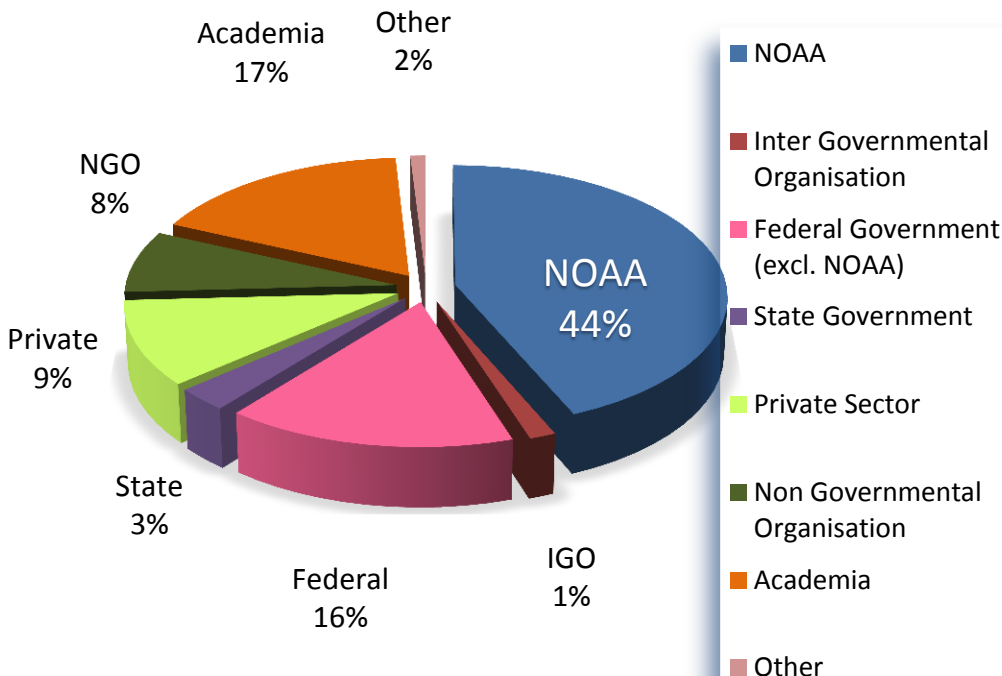
## Review and Selection Process

Each step in the selection process both at the state level and national level are based on the evaluation criteria listed above. At the state level, a panel composed of three members, all from the state Sea Grant program, will individually discuss each application. Following this discussion, an individual score will be provided by each panel member. Once all applications have been discussed and scored, an average score will be computed for each application by the state Sea Grant program. The successful applicants will then be submitted by the state Sea Grant program to the National Sea Grant Office for the national review.

For the national review, a review panel will be assembled to select the class finalists. The panel will include representation from the Sea Grant Association, the National Sea Grant Advisory Board, and the current class of fellows. Each panel member is assigned applications to review before the panel meeting. During the panel meeting each application will be individually discussed. Following this discussion, an individual score will be provided by each panel member. Once all applications have been discussed and scored, an average score will be computed for each application by the Sea Grant Knauss Program Manager or designee. In general, the successful applicants will be selected based on the average score; however, the selecting official may select lower scored applicants based on specific selection factors. The successful applicants will then be placed into either the legislative or executive group by the selecting official based upon the applicant's stated preference, the application materials submitted, and the individual comments of the panel members.



# ALUMNI DESTINATIONS\*



\*209 out of 322 alumni registered in the alumni database from 1979-2009

*"John Knauss" name is synonymous with the most successful fellowship program ever developed in the oceanographic community: the Dean Knauss Sea Grant Fellowship. The outstanding alumni of this program now populate some of the United States' most influential offices of policy and program in the oceanographic community--and are known by many as 'Knauss Fellows.'*

- Richard Spinrad, Vice President for Research, Oregon State University



# CONTACTS

National Sea Grant College Program

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